

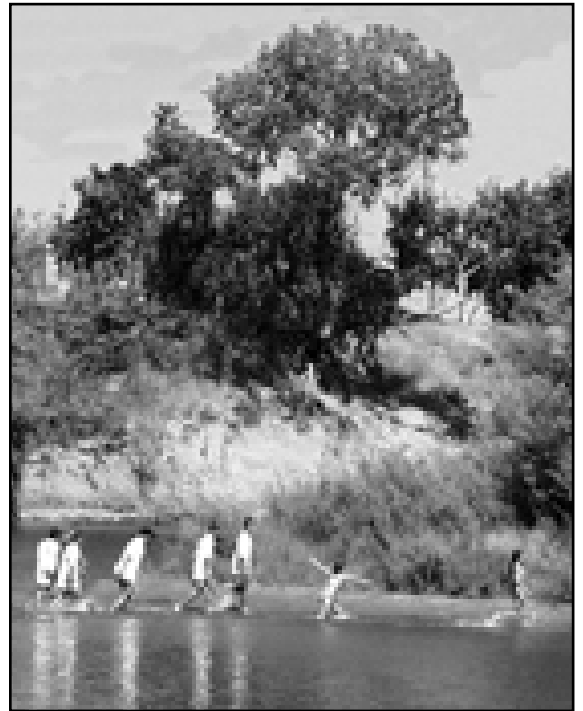
## DPR Expands Surface Water Protection Program

Recognizing that pesticides pose a threat to California's lakes, rivers and streams, Cal/EPA's Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has launched a major expansion of its surface water protection program. In the new state budget, Governor Davis approved additional resources for these statewide activities. An initial effort involves development of a water quality management strategy for the Sacramento River watershed.

The Governor's Budget provided \$2,130,000 for DPR's initiatives to protect surface water, including extensive monitoring and technical staff for related activities. These include investigating where and how pesticides enter surface water, measuring the impact of pesticides on water quality, exploring ways to minimize pesticide impact and working to educate pesticide users about the problem. DPR is planning a second phase to take action on these findings.

DPR's initiatives include the Sacramento River Watershed Program (SRWP). This multi-agency effort is aimed at protecting and enhancing the environmental and economic health of an area that extends from the Delta to the Oregon border. DPR has played a key role in organizing an SRWP focus group. Stakeholders will help DPR and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board develop key water quality management strategies. The first meeting, held June 29, 1999, in Sacramento, attracted a broad range of interests, including growers, environmental advocates and chemical industry representatives.

While focus group activities have already begun, DPR encourages interested parties to join upcoming sessions. Meetings will continue about once a month until at least next spring. For more information, call Kevin Bennett at (916) 324-4200 or e-mail him at [srwp@empm.cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:srwp@empm.cdpr.ca.gov).



## California Environmental Hotline: Innovative Solutions for the Environment

The *California Environmental Hotline* (1-800-CLEANUP; <http://www.1800cleanup.org>), known nationally as *Earth's 911*, is an innovative and fun solution for the environment.

It has been such a success over the past two years in California that the Integrated Waste Management Board (IWMB) just disconnected their statewide hotline letting the *California Environmental Hotline* fulfill the role of a state mandated resource.

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# FROM MY CORNER

## Winston H. Hickox Agency Secretary

Last quarter's newsletter insert enabled us to make an impact on the newsletter early on. In this quarter's newsletter we are using pictures to tell a story – the “topping out” of the new Cal/EPA building, highlighted by a “topping out” ceremony on July 29<sup>th</sup>. “Topping out” is the placement of the last piece of vertical steel in the framework of a high-rise building. The steel girder, signed by all the ironworkers and construction crews then on the project, is adorned with a fir tree for good luck before being put into place in the upper reaches of the building. The event signals the completion of the structural framework – the “skeleton” – of the building and also signifies the delivery of the structure to the interior construction and utility trades to install the building's amenities and internal systems.

The new Cal/EPA Headquarters building is located at Tenth and I streets adjacent to Sacramento City Hall. It is a unique public-private partnership which will meet the needs of the state tenants through the efforts of the city's management team as owner of the property, while relying on the creativity and professionalism of the developer and contractors.

With a total of over 950,000 square feet of usable office space and amenities, this building will house nearly all the Sacramento-based headquarters of the six boards, departments, or offices which comprise the Cal/EPA family. Building efficiencies will include centralized hearing rooms, a public information counter and permit assistance center, and professional staff quarters, as well as the single-most complete environmental technology resource library and repository in the state. Once in the space, Cal/EPA will be able to ensure cost-effective, timely, co-ordinated responses to all environmental challenges facing us for many, many years.

Equally important to the building's increased efficiencies are the use of “green” building technologies which will be required in all state and municipal construction undertaken in the Capitol area in the next few years. Through the leadership of the Integrated Waste Management Board and a team of dedicated professionals drawn from throughout Cal/EPA, we are selecting, testing and installing energy efficient, “green” technologies. This will ensure this building is a working laboratory for the advancement of these engineering,



technology and operations systems which will result in increased efficiencies for all state and municipally-sponsored construction for many years.

Finally, the other very satisfying facet of this project is that it is coming in “on time” and “within budget.” Sacramento City leaders, in concert with state officials and legislative leadership, defined a bid process which required the developer and contractor to bring the project in within fixed price limits. To date, those objectives and benchmarks have been met or surpassed which is also a successful demonstration of innovative contracting procedures not often found in state or municipally-sponsored construction.

When we are in the building, we will be able to complete the integration of the programs at Cal/EPA. The creation of an Environmental Policy Council, comprised of the Chairs and Directors of all six entities within Cal/EPA, will assist me on cross-media challenges we all face as we advance the Governor's objective to ensure a healthy environment in a sound economy. I firmly believe this will be a better working model for all Cal/EPA.

In that same realm, I will continue to advance my commitment to the concept that the best decisions are those made at the lowest, most accountable level of the organization, reflecting the most direct input from the regulated and involved public.

In these two areas, and in many others, the “new” building represents a new approach to a philosophy of management and operation that you should all see evolving even now. I look forward to discussing these concepts with you even further in the months ahead.

## ENVIRONMENT

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Jim Spagnole, Director of Communications

Cal/EPA includes the Air Resources Board, Integrated Waste Management Board, State Water Resources Control Board, Department of Pesticide Regulation, Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

Comments, suggestions or address changes can be made via fax at (916) 445-5563 or e-mail at [cepacomm@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:cepacomm@calepa.ca.gov).

### **Go Paperless**

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*Lisa Lapin, UC Davis News Service*

*Governor Gray Davis, Secretary Hickox and UC Davis Chancellor Harry Vanderhoef discuss Lake Tahoe health. Governor Davis and Secretary Hickox visited Lake Tahoe and observed scientific tests being conducted by the UC Davis Research Group.*

## Earth's 911 continued from front page

"Because the service is working so well, there is no need to continue incurring the costs associated with operating our old toll-free number anymore and we look forward to working with *Earth's 911* to provide even more information to the public in the months to come," said IWMB Chairman Dan Eaton.

What makes this program innovative under the leadership of the California Environmental Protection Agency is that it not only provides required information within the state, but it operates free of charge to the state, as well as all cities and counties through the support of a partnership with leading corporations like Ford Motor Company, Home Depot, Union 76/Circle K, Microsoft, Bank of America and Sprint.

Give the *California Environmental Hotline* a call or access the Internet to see how a little innovation is helping you to protect the environment.

## AIR RESOURCES BOARD

### El Centro Asbestos Case

The Air Resources Board (ARB) has reached the largest asbestos settlement in its history concerning asbestos removal at a defunct fertilizer plant. In total, the settlement will cost the J.R. Simplot Company of El Centro \$1.25 million in penalties and cleanup fees.

Simplot agreed to pay a \$750,000 settlement after allegations that numerous violations of the California Hazardous Waste Control Law were found between December 1996 and April 1999, when ARB inspectors investigated complaints of improper asbestos removal at the plant. To ensure proper cleanup of the site, Simplot has agreed to put \$500,000 in an escrow account. Those funds will be forfeited to the ARB if the company fails to meet asbestos cleanup requirements at the plant by January 14, 2000. In the settlement, the asbestos cleanup must be done under guidelines provided by the ARB agreement.

### California-Baja Auto Emissions Study

The Air Resources Board (ARB) in August completed a month-long study to collect air emissions data from vehicles with Mexican license plates that crossed the border into California.

The study collected data from approximately 1,000 vehicles crossing the border at Calexico, Otay Mesa and San Ysidro. Information was gathered on emissions levels of carbon monoxide and the smog-forming emissions hydrocarbon and nitrogen oxide.

Approximately 50 vehicles each day were put through a visual inspection and then given a basic emissions test with the engine idling. A smaller number of vehicles (about seven each day) were then selected for a more complex emissions test on a dynamometer. Finally three to five drivers each day were asked to have an electronic tracking system installed in their car for one day. This allowed the collection of data on the number of miles driven and the driving pattern while the vehicle was in California.

The ARB will meet with Mexican officials later this year to discuss ways the information from the study might be used to reduce air pollution in the border region.

## Waste Board Funds Use of Waste Tires to Reinforce Levees

An innovative project that could eventually use millions of tires to help shore up California's aging levees was unveiled in June 1999 by the Integrated Waste Management Board (IWMB).

The demonstration project is in the levee of an irrigation canal alongside the Feather River. A 1,400-foot-long, 20-foot-deep reinforcing wall was recently added to the levee, using 2-inch rubber chips made from 45,000 old waste tires in the flood protection experiment designed by California State University, Chico.

In describing the project to media gathered at the site on June 21, 1999, IWMB Member and former State Senator David A. Roberti said, "This timely experiment may offer a way to bolster California's levee system and rid the state of significant numbers of illegal waste tire piles. If successful, dozens of California communities could some day rely on old waste tires for protection against winter flooding."

The tires for the project came from two illegal waste tire sites in nearby Oroville that were cleaned up recently by the IWMB. The tires were shredded into chips by Golden By-Products of Manteca, then returned to Butte County for reuse.

Coincidentally, the levee where the project is being conducted forms the western flood control levee of the Feather River, which caused significant flooding between Oroville and Sacramento in the winter of 1997 when several sections of levees broke, sending floodwaters into low-lying communities.

**More IWMB news on page 7**

# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT

## Cal/EPA's Boards, Departments and Offices Team Up to Ensure Applicants Meet Program Requirements

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has teamed with other Cal/EPA boards, departments and offices (BDOs) in the implementation of the Registered Environmental Assessor II (REA II) program. The REA II program is an extension of the existing REA I program. The REA II program registers environmental professionals with extensive experience in the investigation, assessment and mitigation of hazardous waste and hazardous substance release sites.

The goal of the REA II program is twofold. Initially, the program seeks to provide a resource of qualified, experienced environmental professionals to perform mandated and voluntary environmental investigations, assessments and remedial work. Secondly, the REA II program's investigation and auditing elements will enhance the quality of the environmental assessments and remediation work performed in California.

The BDOs represent the stakeholders that will utilize and review the work of REA II registrants and have been invited to participate in the selection of registrants. Staff from the State Water Resources Control Board, the Integrated Waste Management Board, the Air Resources Board and the Department of Toxic Substances Control participate on the Application Review Committee (ARC) which includes staff from OEHHA. The involvement of the BDOs is an important and integral part of the evaluation process and in the selection of registrants.

The ARC meetings are held monthly during which a roundtable review and discussion of all applications completed during the past month is held. Each applicant's education, experience and project management breadth and experience is evaluated and discussed by the committee members. When the evaluation process is complete, ARC members vote to recommend acceptance or denial of each application for REA II registration.

Applications for registration have been received from environmental professionals in a variety of geographic localities throughout the state. The majority of applications are from individuals located in the Los Angeles – Orange County – Inland Empire areas. A substantial number have also been received from individuals located in the Sacramento and southern San Joaquin Valley areas. Each year OEHHA will publish a list of all REA IIs registered in the state along with their contact locations and areas of expertise. Prior to that time, interested parties may obtain this information by calling (916) 342-6881. Additional program information and applications for REA I and II registration may be found on the REA website located at [www.calrea.com](http://www.calrea.com).



## Water Board Receives Funding for TMDLS

The State Water Resources Control Board received funding in several critical areas when Governor Davis signed the budget for fiscal year 1999-2000.

For the first time, State and Regional Boards (Boards) received money specifically allocated to prepare Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL), watershed wide management plans that look at all aspects of a watershed, including point and nonpoint sources of pollution.

The nearly \$10 million in funding for TMDLs includes \$6 million from the federal government and \$3.9 from the state. At the same time the Governor approved this funding, he vetoed other provisions of the budget package that he felt would have put restrictions on how the Boards operate their TMDL programs. While producing TMDLs is required under the Clean Water Act, state resources have previously been unavailable to accomplish the task of producing and implementing a TMDL for each of the more than 400 impaired waterways in California.

The budget provides a one-time allocation of \$6.5 million for updating waste discharge permits and augmenting waste discharge inspections to remedy the current backlog.

The Governor's Executive Order D-5-99, to remove the oxygenate MTBE from all of California's gasoline by the end of 2002 also received state budget assistance. Some 35 new positions will be funded out of the new budget in addition to contract funds. The Budget also provided \$1 million for water quality monitoring.

## Baggett Appointed to State Water Board

On May 14, 1999, Governor Davis appointed Arthur G. Baggett, Jr., a former Mariposa County supervisor, as the attorney member of the State Water Resources Control Board. The position requires Senate confirmation.

Baggett, 48, of El Portal, holds a Master's Degree in Environmental Studies from Antioch College and a law degree from San Joaquin College of Law. He has experience in water permitting and use in both California and Utah. Baggett served two terms on the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County from 1987-1994. As a scientist and teacher, Baggett has served as a faculty member for the Yosemite Institute, the Sierra Institute of the University of California at Santa Cruz, the Yosemite Association and as Adjunct Faculty at Fresno State University in the Department of Chemistry.



Art Baggett brings to the SWRCB the support of both the environmental community and water users, which he attributes to the fact that "I enjoy the negotiating process . . . helping people to listen to each other and balancing their concerns."

## Bay/Delta Water Right Hearing Moving Closer to Completion

When Phase 2B concerning the San Joaquin River Agreement was completed on July 6, 1999, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) took a break from its year-long water right hearing on the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. The SWRCB, however, will not be taking a break from its work on the Bay/Delta.

The time away from the hearing room will give SWRCB members and staff the opportunity needed to review the voluminous official record of the phases completed to date in order to prepare a decision on those phases. The decision is projected to be issued by the end of this year.

As each phase is completed, California moves closer to determining who is responsible for meeting the water quality objectives adopted in the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan for the Bay/Delta. The importance of the water that flows through the Delta is paramount for the state as this water quenches the thirst of almost half the state's residents and irrigates thousands of acres of agriculture.

Disagreement over the use and protection of Bay/Delta waters has continued for decades. While there remains much work to be completed and the fact that the end of this water right hearing is near, is a significant milestone in the state's ongoing efforts to better protect all of the uses of water that flows to the Delta.



*Secretary Hickox presents State Water Resources Control Board Chairman, Jim Stubchaer, with an award of recognition from the California Border Environmental Cooperation Committee (Cal/BECC), a binational committee aimed at resolving environmental problems along the U.S.-Mexico border. Through Chairman Stubchaer's involvement, the formation of solid trans-border relationships came to be, which in turn has lead to the fruition of several environmental infrastructure projects along the California-Baja/California border. Secretary Hickox was recently named Chair of Cal/BECC.*

## DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

### DTSC Celebrates Early Transfer of Navy Base to Port of Oakland

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) recently announced the early transfer of the U.S. Navy's Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Oakland (FISCO) to the Port of Oakland. The transfer approved by Governor Gray Davis, follows negotiations between DTSC, the Port of Oakland and the U.S. Navy. The Port intends to use the property to expand and improve its intermodal cargo management operations.

Under the agreement, DTSC will provide environmental regulatory oversight and long-term monitoring, the Port of Oakland will conduct hazardous waste cleanup activities and the U.S. Navy will pay costs -- estimated to exceed \$4 million. The early transfer agreement also ensures that:

- Parcels are suitable for transfer for the intended use by Port of Oakland
- Agreements between the Navy and the Port of Oakland will contain assurances that public health and the environment will be protected
- Commitments for cleanup levels and actions will be consistent with future land use
- The Navy will submit adequate budget requests to pay for the cleanup

### Large California Waste Generators to Track Source Reduction

DTSC recently announced a new program that will enable the Department to monitor and track waste reduction by many of California's largest hazardous waste generators. The program stems from an amendment of the Waste Source Reduction and Management Act of 1989.

SB 14 (Roberti) required that large quantity generators conduct reviews and report their hazardous waste generating processes to find ways to reduce hazardous waste. The new reports will make California one of the first states in the nation to have the ability to measure and encourage waste reduction through the collection of real time data.

If a business generated more than 12,000 kilograms per year (13.2 tons) of hazardous waste or 12 kilograms of extremely hazardous waste (including aqueous wastes) during calendar year 1998 it must comply with the new regulations. In addition, businesses must identify their major waste streams and evaluate source reduction opportunities.

The new regulations allow generators the flexibility to use knowledge of their operations and procedures to develop the best approaches to reduce hazardous waste and prevent adverse environmental impacts. DTSC plans to make summaries of the information available on the Department's web page located at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov> in late 1999 or early 2000.

Guidance manuals for generators are available free of charge from DTSC. The manuals include a checklist and summary progress report forms. Generators may also contact DTSC for free source reduction publications at [opptddoc@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:opptddoc@dtsc.ca.gov).

## IWMB continued from page 4

The \$380,000 construction project, managed by the Chico State College of Engineering's Construction Management Department, consists of trenching a 1,400-foot section of levee where seepage has been reported. The trench is then filled with a slurry mixture of soil, cement, bentonite and 450 tons of 2-inch tire chips. The mixture forms an underground curtain that seals off leakage along the entire length of the affected section and anchors the levee against the tremendous stresses exerted by river floodwaters.

The irrigation levee was chosen for the project to test the experimental cutoff wall, under carefully controlled water flow and pressure conditions, and evaluate the device's performance on seepage already occurring at the site.

In the summer of 1996, Chico State Van Duerr Industries completed a \$36,500 IWMB feasibility study on the benefits of using waste tires for levee repair and flood protection. Besides reporting widespread multi-governmental agency support for such an effort, the study concluded that a 25-mile section of 20-foot tall levees could potentially use as much as 4.5 million waste tires for levee stabilization and repair work. In a state where hundreds of miles of levees exist and 30 million new waste tires are generated each year, such a project could "recycle" a substantial number of waste tires, diverting them from disposal to reuse practices that could protect the environment and hundreds of California communities.

In June 1999, the IWMB, California's primary recycling agency, approved a report to Governor Gray Davis and the Legislature that outlined an aggressive plan to clean up the estimated 15 million waste tires littering the landscape and develop markets for all of the tires generated each year. Currently, about half the tires discarded each year are landfilled, stockpiled or disposed of illegally.

The IWMB study also cited years of needed levee repair and a high commitment and interest in such projects, concluding "the (potential) removal of this volume of tires from California's waste stream represents the largest single use of waste tires in recent years." With California's vast water control infrastructure and number of communities at risk during heavy flood years, if successful, the levee stabilization project would open a new dimension of public benefit from old waste tires by enlisting them in flood protection projects.

## Permit Assistance Centers

Lillian Conroe, Director <b>Business Revitalization Center</b> (213) 977-7900	Matt McCarron, Director <b>North Bay</b> (707) 527-2481
Roberta James, Director <b>Contra Costa Regional</b> (925) 229-5950	Danian Hopp, Director <b>Orange County</b> (714) 834-2840
Pete Ruggerello, Director <b>Fresno Area</b> (559) 498-1343	Geralda Stryker, Director <b>San Diego Regional</b> (619) 236-5938
Rosemary Slabaugh, Director <b>Greater Oakland</b> (510) 286-6993	Don Johnson, Director <b>San Fernando Valley</b> (818) 756-7572
Vacant <b>Inland Empire</b> Ontario Office (909) 391-0723 Riverside Office (909) 955-1883	Peter Frey, Director <b>Santa Clara Valley</b> (408) 277-1477
Pete Ruggerello, Director <b>Kern County</b> (661) 862-5175	Danian Hopp, Director <b>South Orange County</b> (949) 461-3560
	<b>Business Permits Made Simple</b> CalGOLD: California Government On-Line To Desktops <a href="http://www.calgold.ca.gov">http://www.calgold.ca.gov</a>

## Cal/EPA Ombudsman Directory

<i>Air Resources Board</i> <b>Jim Schoning</b> (916) 323-6791	<i>State Water Resources Control Board</i> <b>Jim Bennett</b> (916) 657-1287
<b>Nancy Steele</b> (Deputy-South) (626) 459-4368	<i>Regional Water Quality Control Boards</i> <b>Craig Johnson</b> (707) 576-2226
<i>Department of Pesticide Regulation</i> <b>Regina Sarracino</b> (Registration) (916) 324-3939	<b>Will Bruhns</b> Region 2 (San Francisco Bay) (510) 286-0838
<b>Kay Cummins</b> (Licensing) (916) 323-6133	<b>Paul Jagger</b> Region 3 (Central Coast) (805) 549-3502
<i>Department of Toxic Substances Control</i> Southern California <b>John Hinton</b> (818) 552-2823	<b>Jim Kuykendall</b> Region 4 (Los Angeles) (323) 266-7632
Northern California <b>Carol Northrup</b> (510) 540-3919	<b>Tom Pinkos</b> Region 5 (Central Valley) (916) 255-3039
<i>Integrated Waste Management Board</i> <b>Chris Peck</b> (916) 255-2427	<b>Bob Dodds</b> Region 6 (Lahontan) (530) 542-5410
<i>Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment</i> <b>Bev Passerello</b> (916) 324-1945	<b>Gary Morris</b> Region 7 (Colorado River) (760) 776-8926
<b>Cynthia Oshita</b> Proposition 65 Implementation (916) 445-6900	<b>Kurt Berchtold</b> Region 8 (Santa Ana) (909) 782-3286
	<b>Mike McCann</b> Region 9 (San Diego) (619) 467-2988

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

### Reporting an Environmental Accident/Incident

Office of Emergency Services	(916) 262-1621
(California only)	(800) 852-7550
Warning Center	(24 Hour)(916) 262-1621
Water Pollution	1-800-952-5400
South Coast AQMD	1-800-CUT-SMOG

### Reporting an Environmental Crime/Violation

Toxics	(916) 324-2448
Illegal Handling of Hazardous Waste	1-800-69-TOXIC
Sacramento	(916) 255-3618
Berkeley	(510) 540-3739
Glendale	(818) 551-2800
Cypress	(714) 484-5400
Air Pollution	(916) 322-6022
	(916) 322-6034
Complaint Hot Line	1-800-952-5588
Water Pollution	1-800-952-5400
Landfills	(916) 255-2431
Pesticides	(916) 445-3920
Smoking Vehicles	1-800-END-SMOG
Cellular (Statewide)	#SMOG

## CAL/EPA BOARD & DEPARTMENT WEBSITES

### Cal/EPA

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov>

### Air Resources Board

<http://www.arb.ca.gov>

### Integrated Waste Management Board

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov>

### Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

<http://www.oehha.ca.gov>

### Department of Pesticide Regulation

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov>

### State Water Resources Control Board

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>

### Department of Toxic Substances Control

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov>

## CAL/EPA ENVIRONMENTAL HOTLINE

1-800-CLEANUP (Nationwide)

<http://www.1800cleanup.org>



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